

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12
NEA-11 OIC-02 COME-00 AID-05 OMB-01 FRB-01 TRSE-00
STR-07 CEA-01 AGRE-00 SIL-01 LAB-04 ITC-01 SS-15
NSC-05 SP-02 L-03 H-02 PA-02 ICA-20 CIAE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 /164 W
-----070240 281801Z /42

R 281715Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7548
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

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USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EPAP, ETRD, ICO
SUBJECT: COFFEE -- MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL COFFEE
ORGANIZATION EXECUTIVE BOARD, JUNE 22-23

REF: LONDON 10176

1. THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE INTERNATIONAL COFFEE
ORGANIZATION MET JUNE 22 AND AGAIN JUNE 23. THE AGENDA
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COVERED LARGELY ROUTINE ITEMS, INCLUDING VOTES,
STATISTICAL INFORMATION, VERIFICATION OF STOCKS, AND
THE CAMEROON PRODUCTION STUDY. MOST DISCUSSION CONCEN-
TRATED ON THREE ISSUES: INDICATOR PRICES, CERTIFICATES
OF ORIGIN, AND FINANCE.

2. INDICATOR PRICE: THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OPENED WITH

A REPORT ON THE NEED FOR DEVELOPING A BROADER BASE FOR THE ROBUSTA INDICATOR PRICE. HE ALSO REQUESTED GUIDANCE FROM THE BOARD ON WHAT OTHER ROBUSTA QUOTATIONS SHOULD BE EXAMINED FOR POSSIBLE USE IN THE INDICATOR PRICE. ANGOLA ANSWERED BY URGING MORE FLEXIBILITY IN THE RULE FOR GLEANING QUOTATIONS FOR ITS COFFEE IN NEW YORK. BRAZIL SUGGESTED LOOKING TOWARD PRICES IN EUROPEAN MARKETS FOR ROBUSTA COFFEES. THE US REP CONCURRED IN THE PROPOSALS FOR A WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE THIS QUESTION. HE ALSO SUGGESTED COLLECTING INFORMATION ON ALL THE IMPORTANT ROBUSTA COFFEES TRADED IN NEW YORK WITHOUT LIMITING IT ONLY TO THAT COFFEE SHIPPED WITHIN 30 DAYS OF SALE. THE FRG DIVERTED THE DISCUSSION TO THE LEGAL RAMIFICATION OF CHANGING THE BASIS OF INDICATOR PRICES. THE FINAL OUTCOME, HOWEVER, WAS TO INSTRUCT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO CONTINUE HIS CONSULTATIONS AND STUDIES IN PREPARATION FOR AN EVENTUAL MEETING OF WORKING GROUP ON INDICATOR PRICES.

3. COFFEE SUPPLY STUDIES. THE COFFEE SUPPLY STUDY FOR THE CAMEROONS WAS DISTRIBUTED. THE GUATEMALA STUDY WILL BE READY IN THE NEXT 15 DAYS AND THE BRAZILIAN STUDY IS EXPECTED IN 60 DAYS. THE US QUESTIONED THE CONTINUED DELAYS IN ISSUING SOME STUDIES, PARTICULARLY THAT OF COLOMBIA. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BELTRAO EXPLAINED THE DIFFICULTIES BEING FACED BY THE SECRETARIAT IN RESPECT TO

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COLOMBIA AND MEXICO. THE SECRETARIAT IS ALSO PREPARING A SUMMARY REPORT ON THE STUDIES THUS FAR COMPLETED FOR SUBMISSION TO THE COFFEE COUNCIL IN SEPTEMBER.

4. FINANCE. THE EXECUTIVE BOARD APPROVED THE REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND FORWARDED IT TO THE COUNCIL. THE 1978/79 BUDGET IS INCREASED 7.8 PERCENT OVER THE 1977/78 BUDGET. THERE WERE SEVERAL QUESTIONS CONCERNING

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THE SIZE OF THE ORGANIZATION'S RESERVES, PARTICULARLY
BY THE FRENCH AND FRG DELEGATES, AND A REQUEST FOR
EARLIER DISTRIBUTION OF THE BUDGET INFORMATION FOR FRG
REVIEW, BUT OTHERWISE THE SUBJECT MATTER COVERED WAS
ROUTINE.

5. THE DEBATE ON THE ROLE OF THE EC CUSTOMS UNION AND
THE CUSTOMS PROCEDURES TO BE USED BY THE COMMUNITY IN
IMPLEMENTING THE RULES WAS RENEWED IN THE EXECUTIVE
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BOARD BETWEEN COLOMBIA, BRAZIL AND ANGOLA ON ONE SIDE
AND THE EC ON THE OTHER. THE MATTER REMAINS UNRESOLVED,
BUT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR URGED INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS
BETWEEN THE INTERESTED PARTIES.

6. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR URGED BOARD APPROVAL OF THE
RULES AND PREPARATION FOR THEIR EARLY IMPLEMENTATION.
THE US, SUPPORTED BY THE FRG, FRANCE AND KENYA, NOTED
THE NEED FOR A NEW, REVISED DRAFT OF THE RULES AND TIME
FOR BOARD MEMBERS TO STUDY THE RULES AND THEIR IMPLICA-
TIONS IN CONSULTATION WITH APPROPRIATE INSTITUTIONS IN

THEIR HOME COUNTRIES BEFORE PROCEEDING TO A BOARD
RECOMMENDATION. IT WAS ALSO NOTED THAT IN THE ABSENCE
OF AN IMMEDIATE NEED FOR EARLY IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
RULES, THERE WAS LITTLE REASON TO ACT. THE BOARD
FINALLY NOTED THE REPORT AND DEFERRED FURTHER ACTION
UNTIL ITS NEXT MEETING ON JULY 31, 1978.

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